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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/015,307	12/12/2001	Franklin Zhigang Zhang		5559

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EXAMINER

BUI, HUNG S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2841

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/015,307

Applicant(s)

ZHANG, FRANKLIN ZHIGANG

Examiner

Hung S Bui

Art Unit

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– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 3-6 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - Regarding claim 3, in line 3, there is no antecedent basic for "the expansion PCB zone."
 - Regarding claim 5, lines 2-3, "zone of claim 3" should be corrected as – zone of --.
 - Regarding claim 6, line 2, "shield expansion zone of claim 2" should be corrected as – shield expansion zone--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-6 are rejected as failing to define the invention in the manner required by 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The claim(s) are narrative in form and replete with indefinite and functional or operational language. The structure which goes to make up the device must be clearly and positively specified. The structure must be organized and correlated in such a manner as to present a complete operative device. The claim(s) must be in one sentence form only. Note the format of the claims in the patent(s) cited.

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Regarding claim 1, line 1, the structure intended by the computer system board "with plurality of shield expansion housing solution" is unclear. In line 4, applicant should clarify the structure intended by " plurality of shield expansion housing solution."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-3 and 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Volz et al. [US 5,378,169] in view of Gessaman [US 5,559,676].

Regarding claims 1-3 and 5-6, Volz et al. disclose a computer system board (12) comprising:

- a plurality of shield expansion zones (64, figures 1-2);
- a plurality of connectors (30, 52b) mounted on the system board within the expansion zones (figures 1 and 3);
- a plurality of daughter boards (14) mated with the connectors (figures 5-6);
- and
- a plurality of covers (12) extending over the daughter boards.

Volz et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for the cover being formed of shielding material.

Gessaman discloses a daughter board (4) being mounted to a base board (44) with a metallic cover (8).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to use the metallic material for the cover of Volz et al., as suggested by Gessaman, for the purpose of protecting against EMI interference.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Volz et al. in view of Gessaman, as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of Higgins, III [US 5,639,989].

Regarding claim 4, Volz et al. in view of Gessaman disclose the instant claimed invention except for the shield expansion zone being formed of copper.

Higgins, III disclose a shielding member (70) mounted on a copper mounting base (56).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to use copper for the shield expansion zone of Volz et al. in view of Gessaman, as suggested by Higgins, III, for the purpose of improving conductivity between the shield and expansion zones.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Denzene et al. [US 5,867,371];

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- Ohira [US 6,118,347]; and
- Chan [US 5,838,551].

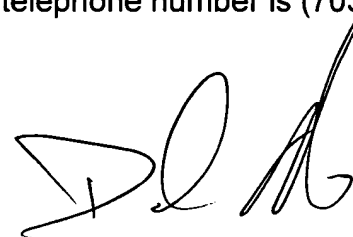
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S Bui whose telephone number is (703) 305-8024.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David S. Martin can be reached on (703) 308-3121. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-0956.

HB
3/29/03



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